(b) whether Government are also aware that even though there was a huge spill during the Iran-Iraq war, comparable in size to the present one, its effects have not been permanent or significant;

(c) whether Government are aware that although the Mina-al-Ahmadi pollution is at least three times larger than the Torrey Canyon Spill, in view of the tropical climate in the enclosed sea Gulf, and the benefit of microbial action which breaks down the toxic chemicals in crude oil leaving minerals, the impact of Gulf oil slick would be far less; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to educate the public on these exaggerated reports of environmentalists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The eco-system of the Gulf is being studied by UN agencies and countries concerned. No conclusive reports are available..

Deputy Prime Minister's visit to Oslo

431. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Prime Minister, Shri Devi Lal, during his recent visit to Oslo, committed a breach of protocol by not attending a reception which was advanced by the new king of Norway; and

(b) if so, what has been the reaction of the Government of Norway thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Deputy Prime Minister did not commit any breach of Protocol. He attended the Reception of the new King of Norway.

(b) does not arise.

Quota of telephone connections recommended by M.Ps.

432. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Members of Parliament are entitled to recommend telephone connections out of their quota fixed by the Government recently;

(b) if so, how many recommendations have been made by Members of Parliament since the announcement of the scheme and how many telephone connections have been sanctioned so far; and

(c) whether Government have received numerous complaints from Members of Parliament for not sanctioning of telephones promptly and non-intimation to Members of Parliament and if so, what steps are being taken for sending prompt replies to Members of Parliament in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) Yes, Sir. An announcement to this effect has already been made.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

Lift irrigation potential in A.P.

433. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total lift irrigation potential in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the extent to which it has been exploited so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) Out of 74.90 lakh hectares